

BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 17, 2006

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, July 17, 2006, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street in Bristol, RI. The Chairperson, Marjorie J. McBride, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:08 p.m.

Present: Marjorie J. McBride, William A. Estrella, Jr., Thomas E. Skuba, William M. O'Dell, Paul E. Brule, Joyce M. Kinsella, John P. Saviano and Paul Silva; Edward P. Mara, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools; Jane F. Correia, Director of Administration and Finance; and Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor

Absent: Beverly Z. Travers

OPENING BUSINESS

All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mr. O'Dell read the District's Mission Statement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 7:12 PM

In accordance with Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5(a)(1)-(9), 2(b), Mr. Skuba motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:12 PM for legal advice regarding Council 94 contract negotiations and an update on the Assistant Superintendent position. Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 7:55 PM

Discussed in Executive Session were the issues mentioned above.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diana Campbell, 40 Seal Island Rd., Bristol, expressed disappointment that the School Committee goals have not been updated since 2001-2002. She also commented on the Strategic Plan objectives regarding increasing the graduation rate; Mrs. McBride advised her to contact the Superintendent. Ms. Campbell felt that her concerns were shared by many and this discussion should be an agenda item; again Mrs. McBride advised her to meet with the Superintendent. Also, she asked again about college acceptances; Dr. Mara received a 2006 report just yesterday and will share it with her.

Tara Thibaudeau, Main Street, Warren, Co-President of the Hugh Cole and Mary V. Quirk PTA, spoke on behalf of that group regarding the south parking lot at Hugh Cole. They feel there is not sufficient need

for parking space to warrant the taking of green space. Parent parking behind the school in the past has worked very well; the street is wide enough to be used for special event parking as well as the northern corner of the property. She implored the Committee to stop plans for this lot—there are other, better solutions.

Linda Formica, representing the Asylum Road Neighborhood Association, said they have been vehemently against the plans for the south parking lot since day one. The original plans were for a 24 space lot in front of one of the doors and not in green space—this is what was published in the Times. The current plan was not made very public. It is a sin and a shame; the charter to manage property with good faith is not being done. She requested a copy of the minutes to the meeting where the parking lot plans were changed. Ms. Formica stated that for the past two weekends, the school hired machinery and equipment to continue work on only the parking lot—it is now ready for asphalt. Also, one of their representatives went to Oliver and asked to look at a copy of the bid proposal the contractor signed off on—it was not available; she was told to get it from the architect or project manager, who received a gag order from Mrs. McBride not to speak with the public. She requested the copy. She said Mrs. McBride told her \$1,000 was set aside for landscaping; she has been told there is no landscape design. Her final comment: there is no landscaping, no buffer, it is the asphalt jungle.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Silva motioned to approve the consent agenda; Mr. Brule seconded. The motion to approve the consent agenda passed by a vote of 7 to 0. (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote.)

Mr. Silva motioned to seal the minutes to the June 26 Executive Session; Mr. Brule seconded; the motion passed 7 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Skuba reported that the extra \$474,000 in State aid has not yet been officially committed; for now, it will be placed in capital funds until the Subcommittee takes action. The next meeting will be sometime in August. The few extra dollars from this year's budget will be placed in the 2% emergency reserve and cash flow funds.

Facilities: The final phase of the Guiteras window replacement project is near completion; a large majority of the cost will be covered by energy and housing aid reimbursements. The high school roof project, although delayed by rain, should be completed during the summer. The Rockwell bus loop is substantially complete and looks nice; the project is within budget and the soft surface play area is on hold until the project is finalized.

POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. Kinsella reported that the Committee is working on the application process for memorials for students and teachers; they will meet again in July and August.

PERSONNEL / CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Silva reported no BWEA activity. Mr. Estrella reported significant progress was made at the last Council 94 contract negotiations session; another meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Discussion with Warren Town Council Members regarding the Hugh Cole Parking Lot

Frank Alfano and Louis Rego of the Warren Town Council joined the Committee for discussion. Roland Robert, architect for the Hugh Cole Project, explained how the plans developed into the current 47 space plan for the south parking lot. In order to achieve the necessary 153 parking spaces, or approximately 5 spaces per classroom (standard), and because at that time they were told there is too much street parking, a 25 space lot was planned on the south side of the building. After a meeting with neighbors in September,

2005, a rotary turn around was added (at the suggestion of the neighbors); in doing so, the fire lane would end where the turn around started, making a pressure point for traffic. At that time, a comment was made that the tee ball field was not used much, so the south lot was expanded to 46 spaces to accommodate teachers on that side of the building and take them out of traffic in the front of the building for safety. The turn around was elongated to save existing trees. Several other options were explored and proven unfeasible. This plan was reviewed by the Building Inspector, Highway Department, Police and Fire Departments and the Building Committee; bids were based on those drawings and the drawings were on display in the Hugh Cole Lobby. Mrs. McBride added that all meetings are published and open to the public.

Mr. Alfano thanked the Committee for agreeing to meet with the Town Council; he recognized the daunting task of such a large project; as to how we got to where we are, pointing fingers does not help the situation. Representing the people of the Town of Warren, he proposed a solution: Considering the need for parking while construction is in progress, the need for open space in the community, as well as finances, he suggested we lay only the first layer of asphalt on the south lot to accommodate parking for the opening of school; in the spring when the main lot is finished, the asphalt on the south lot can be removed and the area reseeded; the Town will provide a parking lot on the rear north side either separate from, or abutting, the small parking area now planned. (See

attachment.)

Mr. Robert commented: Human nature is to park as close to the front door as humanly possible and parents will never go back there; the Building Committee entertained a lot in the back but felt safety was a prohibitive issue; perhaps the access road could be extended into public land.

Mr. Alfano stated that the width of Asylum Road was planned so as to provide parking on both sides.

Mrs. McBride commented that in planning, the Building Committee felt preserving the width of the road was more important than an extra row of parking spaces; they looked at other options but this proposal was not before them at the time.

Mr. Skuba felt we will never please everyone; he disagrees that the plans we have do not take care of our responsibilities to students and taxpayers, Mr. Alfano's proposal was a step in the right direction, it is an example of what can happen when we collectively look at options instead of pointing fingers, and he felt we should seriously consider this proposal.

Mr. Estrella thanked the Town Council for the great idea; the motion was defeated previously because it was more costly; regardless of the number of parking spaces available, there is one access point.

In response to Mr. Rego, Attorney Henneous explained why the Committee cannot respond to the public during Public Comment. Mrs. McBride explained that she refused Mrs. Thibaudeau's request to be placed on the agenda because the issue had been discussed at a previous open meeting, a vote was taken, and votes cannot be revisited every time someone is unhappy with it. She had reminded Mrs. Thibaudeau that she can make her request to Mr. O'Dell, the Secretary. Mr. Rego felt everyone has a right to ask and for an answer to be given and asked the Committee to change their policy. Mr. Saviano stated that the Policy Subcommittee is currently working on this issue; he is hoping to change the Committee's image and open communication.

Mr. Alfano said 23% of Warren is reserved for open space; this area is important as a play area; they would like to ensure sufficient play area while school is both in and out of session; there will always be parking on the road by tee ball parents, but tee ball is a short season. He thanked the Committee and asked them to inform the Council of their decision.

Mr. O'Dell liked the proposal and felt the Committee should consider it.

Board Self-Assessment

Prior to this evening, only one completed form was received from the

Committee. Mr. Skuba was concerned that the information will be collected and nothing will be done with it. Mr. Saviano said this was a national form; it should be completed and synthesized.

Mr. Brule wished to explain that union carpenters and laborers do not get paid extra for weekends and holidays; we are not paying time and a half for weekend work.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Recommendation #S 2006-33: – PERSONNEL – CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions of two Secondary English Teachers, Secondary Art Teacher, Middle School Social Studies Teacher, PC Technician/Analyst and Secondary Portfolio Coordinator as listed below:

1. Matt Cashen English Teacher – Mt. Hope High

Effective: For the 2006-07 school year, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

(Termination – D. Vasiliauskas)

Funding: Operational Budget (3rd Step)

2. Diana H. Baxter Art Teacher – Mt. Hope High

**Effective: For the 2006-07 school year only,
pending receipt of certification**

**Reason: To fill a leave of absence vacancy
(LOA – L. Enjeti)**

Funding: Operational Budget (1st Step)

3. Spencer A. White Social Studies Teacher – Kickemuit Middle

**Effective: For the 2006-07 school year, pending
receipt of certification**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy
(Retirement – S. Mastrola)**

Funding: Operational Budget (9th Step)

4. George R. Whitehead PC Technician/Analyst

**Effective: July 10, 2006, pending satisfactory
completion of pre-employment
requirements**

Reason: To fill a new position

Funding: Operational Budget

5. Paula Faria Portfolio Coordinator – Mt. Hope High

Effective: For the 2006-07 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Operational Budget

B. BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the School of the 21st Century, Before and After School Program, as listed below (pending sufficient enrollment to warrant running this program and DCYF CANTS clearance):

1. Matthew J. Capone, II Child Care Provider

Effective: For the 2006-07 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

2. Miranda Gabriele Child Care Provider

Effective: For the 2006-07 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

3. Laura Brissette Child Care Provider (Intern)

Effective: For the 2006-07 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

4. Christie Cardente Child Care Provider (Intern)

Effective: For the 2006-07 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

5. Hayley Coutts Child Care Provider (Intern)

Effective: For the 2006-07 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

6. Allison Reuter Child Care Provider (Intern)

Effective: For the 2006-07 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

C. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2006-07 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):

COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH

Sport Position Coach

1. Football Asst. Coach Jason Proulx *

2. Football Asst. Coach Robert Souza *

- 3. Soccer (Girls) Asst. Coach Caitlin Sardinha**
- 4. Soccer (Girls) Asst. Coach Kerri Ferreira**
- 5. Softball (Girls) Head Coach Fernando DaSilva**
- 6. Tennis (Boys) Head Coach William Connell ***
- 7. Volleyball Asst. Coach Brandyn Chace**

INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE

- 8. Cheerleading Coach Lynn DePasquale**

*** Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

D. SUMMER SCHOOL: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individuals for the Summer 2006 session only of the Bristol Warren Regional Summer School contingent upon sufficient enrollment:

Name Course

- 1. Clare Brauch * H.S. Physical Education/Health**
- 2. Suzan Lins * Science**

*** Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

E. EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY) SERVICES PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individual for the Summer

2006 session only of the Bristol Warren Regional Extended School Year (ESY) Services Program contingent upon sufficient enrollment:

Name Position

1. Katie Angelou * Speech Pathologist

*** Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

F. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following application for a certified substitute pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

CERTIFIED

Name Area/Level #

1. Jessica S. Brooks Elementary/Sp.Ed.

G. RESIGNATION: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations listed below:

1. Joseph M. Andrade Asst. Football Coach – Mt. Hope High

Effective: Immediately

Reason: Personal

2. Greg Sullivan Asst. Football Coach – Mt. Hope High

Effective: Immediately

Reason: Personal

3. Mary Frances Vesey Asst. Swimming Coach – Mt. Hope High

Effective: Immediately

Reason: Personal

4. Sharla Dobson ESL/French Teacher – Mt. Hope High

Effective: Immediately

Reason: Personal

5. Kristy Shelburne Science Teacher – Mt. Hope High

Effective: Immediately

Reason: Personal

Recommendation #S 2006-27: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the new School Committee Policy FF Naming of School District Facilities (Second Reading)

Mr. Skuba motioned to approve; Mrs. Kinsella seconded. Mrs. Kinsella confirmed that this policy conforms to State law. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 7 to 0. (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote.)

Recommendation #S 2006-28: That the School Committee, upon the

recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy CBA Qualifications and Duties of the Superintendent of Schools (Second Reading)

Mr. Estrella motioned to approve; Mrs. Kinsella seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 0. (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote.)

Recommendation #S2006-29: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy IKF Graduation Requirements (Second Reading)

Mr. Estrella motioned to approve; Mr. Saviano seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 0. (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote.)

Recommendation #S2006-34: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy IICA Field Trips and Excursions (First Reading)

Mr. Estrella, seconded by Mr. Silva, motioned to approve. Mrs. Kinsella stated that upon further discussion with the Superintendent, the Subcommittee and the public, she would like to motion to add to the third paragraph "A maximum of two field trips per year will be allowed; any exceptions need to be approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee;" also, add "per class" before "per year." The motion to amend was seconded by Mr. Saviano. The motion passed unanimously. Field trips are intended to be extensions of classroom

activities; this does not limit activities that take place inside the school, such as fundraisers. The motion to approve the recommendation as amended passed by a vote of 7 to 1 with Mrs. McBride voting no.

Recommendation #S2006-35: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy Regulation BCE-R Subcommittees of the School Committee.

Mr. Saviano motioned to approve; Mrs. Kinsella seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 0. (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote.)

Recommendation #S2006-36: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, award the bid for window replacement at the Oliver Administration Building.

Mrs. Kinsella motioned to approve. Mr. Brule seconded. Mr. Silva motioned to amend the motion to add “to Chandler Architectural for \$93,000.” Mr. Skuba seconded. The motion to amend passed unanimously. The motion to approve the recommendation as amended passed by a vote of 7 to 0. (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote.)

Recommendation #S2006-32: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, award the bid for architectural services for the Colt Andrews Bond Project upon

successful completion of interviews of architects. (Withdrawn at June 26 Meeting)

Mrs. McBride withdrew this recommendation from the agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 9:16 PM

In accordance with Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5(a)(1)-(9), 2(b), Mr. Estrella motioned to go into Executive Session at 9:16 PM for legal advice. Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 9:30 PM

Discussed in Executive Session were the issues mentioned above.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:32 PM

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Estrella, seconded by Mr. O'Dell, motioned to adjourn at 9:32 PM. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

William M. O'Dell, Secretary

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